

TUESDAY, MAY 19, 1846.

The News at Hand.

We hope to receive by Electric Telegraph at 9 this morning further advice from the Rio Grande by way of the steamboat from Galveston, five days later than our last, which was hourly expected at New Orleans when it last left. We shall learn this news in an extra immediately on receiving it.

We confidently look for more animating advice now than we have hitherto received from the Seat of War. It is morally certain that the danger to San Isabel is passed—that it is no longer to be captured, unless surprised, by any force the Mexicans can bring against it, and we cannot believe the boys' protest there are likely to be caught, against the fate of Thornton's and Walker's detachments freshly in their recollection.

As to the rumor dwelt on by the Courier that the Mexicans have actually fortified themselves on Padre Island, so as to command the passage by Brazos St. and compel our reinforcements to march over land from Corpus Christi to the Rio del Norte, to relieve Gen. Taylor, we do not believe a word of it.

With regard to Gen. Taylor himself, the scantiness of his provisions is the only source of real solicitude, and even this has been made worse than it is. We believe he has six days' bread and a month's supply of cattle within his entrenchments on the 25th ult. If starved out, he has three courses open to him:—first, to collect all his forces in one body and open communications with San Isabel by the long arm. We cannot doubt the triumph of solid columns of brave and disciplined Infantry, supported by a good complement of well-served field Artillery, over clouds of irregular Cavalry and semi-barbarous Indians, aided by all the "Chapparales" in Arroyo over the Rio Grande, and it is hardly probable that any heavy guns have been brought across without the aid of our Army, as in battery pointed at Matamoros. We do not believe the whole Mexican force this side of the River is adequate to the breaking of a square of our Infantry composed of a single regiment, nor that it would venture anything to confront Gen. Taylor's army on any thing like a front. Gen. Taylor's army is against our men, so far as they go; but a few quarts of grape shot would be apt to diminish their population with sensible rapidity.

We cannot believe there is any ground beyond the Rio Grande, and San Isabel on which Gen. Taylor could be beaten by all the Mexicans this side of the Rio Grande. Depend on it, we shall hear a good account of him when he digs out.

His second course is to attack and carry Matamoros by surprise and storm, and if he have any means of crossing the River, he is quite likely to do this, in case of storm. Or he may quietly break through the line of our forces, and drop down upon us, some night, and force our side of him upon us unexpectedly. The fact that they are divided, partly above and partly below, that neither hand can help the other in case he attacks it, will give Gen. T. a clear advantage in numbers should he resolve to open the ball.

But why has he kept quiet so long? It is asked. We believe he has orders to take and hold a position on the Rio Grande, which orders he will not obey to the last. He has proved that he cannot open his communications by detachments. But let him be compelled by famine to leave his present position, and he will go wherever he thinks fit. Such, at least, is the conviction in which we rest; and so, notwithstanding the tardiness of Louisiana and the worse than tardiness of Texas, we look for early and electrifying tidings from the Rio Grande, and that they will hardly fail to clear itself of all perils—no thanks to those who so weakly, wantonly involved it. Once honorably withdrawn from the Rio Grande—let him, slender, rapid, rocky, unobtainable stream—we hope it will never be sent back again. The inhabitants of both banks of that River, and so of every one of its tributaries, are Mexicans—why should we subject them to our rule? Will Republicans answer?

The Whigs and the War.

A call appears in our columns for a Public Meeting in the Park to-morrow evening "in reference to our difficulties with the Government of Mexico," to which we find attached the names of several eminent and excellent Whigs. Although we cannot consider this attachment very ardent, we are bound to presume from their silence that these gentlemen have consented to such use of their names. And in this view we cannot help adding that they seem to us to have read very carefully the recent proceedings in Congress. There the Whigs were anxious to bury all Party differences in view of the peril of our gallant little Army. They were eager to vote with the majority to place in the hands of the President ample means both in men and money, to do whatever he should deem essential to the honor and well-being of the Republic. They most earnestly deplored any thing that would look like division or disaffection in regard to the defence of the Country; they willingly recognized the right of the President to rule over every thing but the convictions and the consciences of the Opposition. Was not that going far enough?

No! said Loco-Foolism: "You shall not be allowed to vote for the bill providing the means of extrajuring our gallant Army from its peril, without voting also for a preamble which asserts that Mexico has made war upon us, invaded our soil, wantonly shed the blood of our soldiers, &c. We will direct you to this alternative: Either you shall 'sanctify' yourselves and vote what you believe to be a 'living' of falsehoods—vote that you have been 'living on false pretences for months and were justly defeated in our last great contest—or, you shall be 'held up to the Country as voting to leave our Army to hopeless starvation and captivity on the Rio Grande.' This was the choice actually offered to the Whigs in Congress: This was the way in which Polk and his Organ, with their followers in Congress, undertook to use the National emergency to subvert the own solid party ends. And now their Presses all turn in unison to work up the capital thus made, either in exaltations over the admission of the Whigs that Annexation was righteous, that Mexico is the wanton aggressor, and that the Rio Grande is our proper boundary, or else denouncing the sixteen who refused to be driven into their trap as enemies of the Country and in favor of letting our brave soldiers be helplessly slaughtered on the Rio Grande! This is the way Loco-Foolism coaxes Whigs to forget party differences and unite in the vindication of our National Honor!

This game is in substance to be played over again in our City. See the cue given in an Editorial right for this meeting in yesterday's Globe:

"The expression of sentiment which the Park Meeting will not do, on the subject of the annexation of Texas, cannot fail to have great moral force. We have furnished, until now, no means of expressing our views on the subject of our citizens for spoliation upon the commerce have been faithfully neglected—our agents have been issued—our soil invaded—and the blood of our brave soldiers has been shed—our brave soldiers have been helplessly slaughtered on the Rio Grande! This is the way Loco-Foolism coaxes Whigs to forget party differences and unite in the vindication of our National Honor!

Such will doubtless be the staple of the Loco-Foolism harangues in the Park to-morrow. The orators of that school will call to present the case as they choose to see it. But suppose the Whigs should claim a like privilege? Suppose N. B. Whit, David Graham or Hamilton Fish should be asked to the stand, and should therefrom proclaim his whole convictions respecting this War with Mexico, its causes and the responsibility of provoking it? Does any one believe they would be heard with acquiescence or suffered to proceed at all? Suppose Jacob Acker, whose name is used in this call, were to state his view of this War business and its instigators in one of his point-blank, three-minute speeches? Depend on it, the very men who now borrow his name to help call just enough Whigs into the meeting to divert it of a party character, would have him

hustled from the stand in no time. How, then, can it be pretended that the cut and dried proceedings of the proposed meeting will truly express the sentiments of the whole people of New-York, and be in any just sense representative of party?

The glory and the profit of this War on Mexico will be monopolized by Loco-Foolism; the Whigs will be stultified in good part by borne by Whigs. In the Taxes to be paid, the Commerce and Whigs Fishery endangered, the Loans to be raised, we shall come in for our full share. So much there is no help for; and if our soil is invaded, Whig blood will freely be poured out in its defence. Shall we crawl to take upon our shoulders a part of the Guilt of inciting this Christian butchery also? Let us think twice first.

Capt. Walker of the Rangers.

We learn that Capt. Walker, so deplorably defeated on the 25th ult. while on his way from Point Isabel to Gen. Taylor's camp, is a young man of 23—brave as a lion, trained under Hays, a good partisan leader, and very unlikely to be involved in such a disaster as has overtaken him by any fault of his own. We have this on the authority of the young Audubon, and give it currency with the greatest pleasure. It seems to us that he must have advanced very recklessly, and without feeling his way, to have met such a disaster as is reported, else his company was badly composed. But we await his account of the matter.

The Boundary of Texas.

The Texans claim the Territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande, and a certain party, admitting this claim in its fullness, holds the simple assertion of it by Texas, sufficient reason for plunging into a war. England claims, with better reason, Oregon down to the Columbia, and the same party holds her doing so, good cause for war also. We will not discuss Oregon now, and only mention it to show how the same men, in their eagerness for Territory, can overlook the right, and deny to others what they eagerly, and at the point of the sword, insist upon for themselves. The claim of Texas to the line of the Rio Grande is the matter with which we are dealing at present. It is not pretended that Texas, as a department of Mexico, ever extended beyond the Nueces, or that the Texans ever planned any settlements whatever on that river until a little trading depot was established there, or four years ago near its mouth. Texas founds her claims, first, on a treaty with President Santa Ana, and secondly on the act of the Texas Congress in 1836. We will examine them in order.

General Santa Ana was taken prisoner on the field of San Jacinto April twenty-second 1836, and the next day entered into an arrangement with Gen. Hark, then Secretary of War, for Texas, by which it was stipulated—First, that Gen. Santa Ana, his officers and soldiers, were to be considered prisoners of war, with the courtesies and protection usual among civilized nations; Secondly, that in his capacity of Commander-in-chief of the Mexican forces, he was to order the main body of his army under Gen. Filisola to retire beyond the Rio Grande, and yield up, as they retired, the Alamo and San Antonio to the Texans. These conditions were fulfilled; the next, however, on which turns the first and major portion of the Texan claim, were not. Gen. Santa Ana on his part agreed to acknowledge the Independence of Texas, with the Rio Grande for the western boundary of the young republic, and the Cabinet of Texas in turn guaranteed to General Santa Ana and his suite, immediate liberty and transportation to Vera Cruz. He had actually been barked for home on the Texas Schooner Invincible, when the people, in defiance of good faith and duty, by force of President Barnett, compelled him by force to return to the shore. To the overthrow of his then rank and influence in Mexico, Gen. Santa Ana was detained many months afterward in Texas. When the Texas Congress met the succeeding winter, that body still refused to liberate him, yet passed a law claiming the Territory which had been demanded as the price of his liberty in April; and by that right defined the Rio Grande as the boundary of Texas.

Will Messrs. Hark & Houston deny these facts? or will they, in their places in the Senate of the United States, pretend that Texas has any other title? Will those gentlemen point out any act of Texas or of their own, by which the fifty or sixty thousand Mexican inhabitants of the province of Santa Fe, living this side of the Rio Grande, have ever been withdrawn from Mexican rule and been re-assimilated or governed by the authority of Texas?

Capt. Walker of the Rangers.

It is said that this partisan left San Isabel on the 25th ult. at daylight, with only four men, determined to make his way to Gen. Taylor or perish in the attempt. He is the bearer of dispatches to Gen. Taylor. We suspect the old veteran will spare little for dispatches which do not announce effective relief at hand.

For Farther War News see First Page of this Paper.

Gen. W. J. WORTH, says the Charleston Patriot of the 13th, arrived in this City this morning, on his way to the seat of war. It is understood that the President has refused to accept his resignation.

The War Horse.—At a War meeting held in Washington last week, Col. R. M. Johnson made a speech in his usual style. As reported in the Intelligence he was not for stopping on the Rio Grande, if he had his way. He would march into the interior of Mexico, and cut their departments right and left. He was not desirous of a war, but the time had arrived when forbearance had ceased to be a virtue. He spoke of cutting off California from the Republic of Mexico; and if the people desired it, he was in favor of annexing California to our country. He said the present war was only a wedding and a dinner compared with the last struggle for our independence. He concluded by saying the war was a party meeting, which was responded to by three hearty cheers of approbation from the multitude.

THE MEXICAN STEAMSHIPS.—When the brig Josephine left Vera Cruz on the 26th ult. the steamships Montezuma, Chualar, reported to have been captured by the Mexican Government, were moored in the Alvarado, 30 miles S. W. of that city. [Phil. N. Amer.]

FROM HAYANA.—The New-Orleans papers have six or seven days later from Hayana, but the news is not important. By an arrival from Vera Cruz on the morning of the 24, the fact that the brig Josephine, in the Company of Serabito, had nearly destroyed all the tobacco crop. At St. Diego they had it also, but not so heavy.

On the morning of the 24th, says the *Diario*, two negroes were captured (choked to death) for the crime of murder on two other negroes on a plantation, in November last.

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Affairs at Washington.

From our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, May 17th, 1846—5 P. M.

You have by this time seen the news by the South-east mail of last evening, bringing late dates from Point Isabel. The mail from the South came by the mail of last evening, bringing late dates from Point Isabel. The mail from the South came by the mail of last evening, bringing late dates from Point Isabel.

There was a meeting of the "boys" in this city last evening to raise recruits for the Army that is to conquer Mexico. About two or three hundred, all told, assembled in front of the City Hall. Addresses were made by Col. R. M. Johnson, by Messrs. McConville, of Alabama, MARTIN, and STANTON of Tennessee, and some others. "The Doctor" of the New York Herald made one of the best speeches, and was one of the best looking men present.

Gen. McClellan manifested an intention to go down and take a hand in the matter himself. It is an excellent thought. If the Loco-Foolism members of Congress would only go down to Mexico, the nation would stand a chance to be benefited.

I believe that in the meetings of the Army in person, the Union also states that each State and Territory will be called upon for its portion of the Army. Why is the whole country to be honored with a chance of butchering a people who were represented as so despicable and weak?

The Union of this morning states that Gen. Scott will probably direct the operations of the Army in person. The Union also states that each State and Territory will be called upon for its portion of the Army. Why is the whole country to be honored with a chance of butchering a people who were represented as so despicable and weak?

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THE SOUTHERN MAIL.

The War Message and its Accompanying Documents.

From our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, May 17th, 1846.

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Like every thing else connected with this Administration, the Documents are full of mystery and mystery, and the people ought to have carefully suppressed. In reading them over, when they were to be an important passage, and expect to receive some information of the state of the country, where the premises are expressed upon which alone you could form a judgment whether the Executive conclusions are correct.

This system is carried so far that even parts of the official documents of the Mexican Government are suppressed by the State and some that would be against Polk's position are preserved in the original Spanish. I am also inclined to the belief that the translations of the Mexican documents are not given in a spirit of fairness. This Administration has been very anxious to have the Mexicans we have lately made a treaty of war, an enemy to our country. Their treatment of foreign countries is of the same stamp with their treatment of the Whigs. Every fact, and even falsehood, that makes the Whigs appear in a bad light, is carefully suppressed. The Whigs are a studied attempt to conceal or mystify every argument in the opposite party's favor.

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